

# Sport Salmon Regulations Summary

## Marine Waters - Seattle to Sekiu - 1997 Summer/Fall Selective Fisheries

Saltwater salmon fishing in Washington requires that anglers: 1) know what species are legal to catch and when; 2) accurately identify fish species; and 3) safely release non-targeted species. The daily limit is 2. Be sure to check the *Fishing in Washington* regulation pamphlet or call the Fishing Hotline, 1-360-902-2500, for complete seasons and rules.

Area	Season	Chinook	Coho	Pink
<b>Area 5</b> <b>Sekiu/Pillar Point</b>	Aug. 1-10 Aug. 11-Sept. 15	Closed Closed	Closed Open <sup>1</sup>	Open Open <sup>1</sup>
<b>Area 6</b> <b>E. Juan de Fuca Strait</b> - Dungeness Bay	Aug. 1-10 Aug. 11-Sept. 15 Oct. 1-31	Closed Closed Closed	Closed Open <sup>1</sup> Open	Open Open <sup>1</sup> Closed
<b>Area 9</b> <b>Admiralty Inlet<sup>2</sup></b>	Aug. 1-Sept. 1 Oct. 1-31 Nov. 1-Apr. 30, 1998	Closed Open - 22" minimum Open - 22" minimum	Open Closed Open	Open Not Applicable Not Applicable
<b>Area 10</b> <b>Seattle/Bremerton</b>	Year-round	Open - 22" minimum <sup>2</sup>	Open <sup>2</sup>	Open <sup>2</sup>

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Managed by coho guideline; check the Fishing Hotline. <sup>2</sup> See regulation pamphlet, pages 30 and 32, for special fishing pier guidelines in Puget Sound, and special closures on shilshole Bay, Elliott Bay, Duwamish Waterway, and Northern Area 10.

## Can you identify chinook, coho and pink salmon?

They will all be present on the north Washington coast, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the San Juan Islands and northern Puget Sound this summer.

### Chinook —

Small, irregular black spots on the back and entire tail. On lower jaw, gums at the base of the teeth are black.



### Coho —

Small, irregular black spots on the back and upper half of the tail. On lower jaw, gums at the base of the teeth are white.



### Pink —

Large, oblong black spots on the back and entire tail. Scales are small compared to other Pacific salmon.



**Know the regulations in the area you are fishing. The risk of not knowing and making a mistake can be costly. Good luck and good fishing!**

1997

# Salmon Fishing: Seattle to Sekiu

Know what you can keep.

Know how to let the others go!



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## Management Challenge: Keeping seasons open while protecting weak runs

For Washington saltwater salmon anglers, the 1997 summer fishing rules pose a challenge. The regulations are complex because they're designed to offer as much salmon angling opportunity as possible — without harming weak runs of wild salmon. To do this, anglers must know which fish are legal to catch, when and where; how to properly identify the different species; and how to safely and properly release non-targeted fish. More than any time in history, salmon anglers are being asked to release salmon due to species restrictions or size requirements in all catch record areas.

We hope you will take extra care with each fish you release. Scientific information suggests a high percentage of salmon that are sport-caught and released will survive if properly released. Learning how to release salmon is one of the best contributions anglers can make to help weak runs of wild salmon recover. The good work anglers do now will result in more fishing opportunities in the future. Once you've learned how to properly release salmon, show others the way to preserve this great resource.



## Salmon Release Techniques

Here are some tips to help you become an expert in properly releasing salmon:

- ➔ With a small salmon, unhook it at the surface with a minimum of — or preferably no — handling.
- ➔ For a larger salmon that is difficult to unhook in the water, bring it aboard, remove the hook quickly and release the fish gently. Cotton mesh salmon nets are best for this purpose. Nets made of synthetic materials tend to remove scales and protective “slime” from the fish.
- ➔ Remove the hook or hooks with a de-hooking device or needle-nose pliers. (See “Making Your Own Salmon De-Hooker” in the next panel.)
- ➔ If a salmon is hooked deep inside the mouth, cut the line as close to the hook as possible.
- ➔ Finally, be sure your hooks are barbless. Washington's saltwater salmon rules have required barbless hooks since the early '80s.



## Making Your Own Salmon De-hooker

A salmon releasing device, or de-hooker, is a great tool to carry aboard your boat to:

- Measure fish in the water
- Quickly and easily release fish
- Immobilize fish you choose to keep

### Making a De-hooker:

- Choose a stout piece of wood that will float if it's dropped. Handles from discarded garden rakes or brooms are ideal.
- Cut to 30 inches, and add marks at 24, 22 and 16 inches. This helps you quickly determine if your fish meets minimum or maximum size requirements.
- Screw an eye-hook into the cut end.



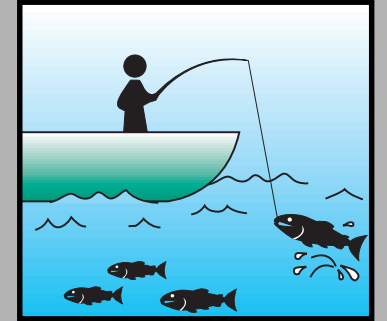
### Using the De-hooker:

- 1 Identify and measure the salmon.
- 2 If it is not legal to keep or you want to release the fish, grip the line-leader 12-18 inches from the mouth. Slide the eye-hook on the de-hooker down the line to the bend of the hook in the salmon's mouth.
- 3 Lift the de-hooker with the eye-hook pointed toward the water, while dropping the hand holding the leader toward the water.
- 4 The weight of the fish coming out of the water, combined with the barbless hook, results in a quick release.

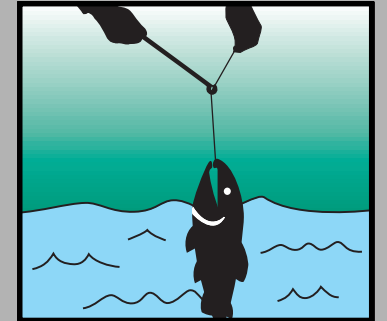


## Using the De-hooker

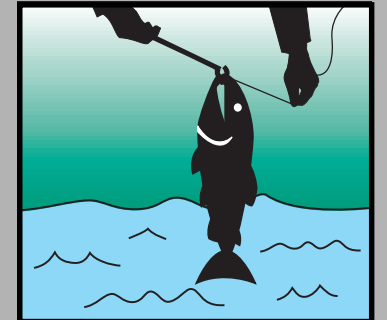
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